

DRAFT

4 December 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation Between Dr. Fubini and
Dr. Wheelon

1. On Tuesday night, 3 December 1963, at approximately 7:30 p. m., Dr. Fubini called Dr. Wheelon re a letter he had received from Mr. McCone on MISTIC, to which Fubini and Co. are preparing a reply. Dr. Fubini was not happy at all with the way things had been handled. He (Dr. F.) assumes that Dr. Wheelon had been over-ruled by Mr. McCone. Dr. Wheelon replied that he had been over-ruled. Dr. Fubini said he was going to try to establish a joint affair but feels he has been stepped on. Fubini requested that Dr. Wheelon keep him posted and Dr. W. said he had called to keep him posted. Dr. Wheelon suggested that Duckett give him a briefing.

2. Dr. F. asked Dr. W. if Dr. W. thought he was wrong about being unhappy. Dr. Wheelon said that his feeling was that one person ought to do it and do it right; that they had an honest disagreement and got views firsthand and then decided which way to go. The matter was taken out of Dr. Wheelon's hands.

Dr. Fubini said if Dr. W. asked them for a letter he would have

he has been over-ruled.

4. Dr. Wheelon said he (Dr. W.) had been over-ruled and the action was taken out of his hands. Dr. W. said the first letter was read to Fubini by the Director and if Fubini left the meeting with the impression that there was a stand-down he was wrong. It was McCone's responsibility.

5. Fubini said we must have a confrontation and he doesn't think Dr. W. should get into the confrontation.

6. Dr. Wheelon said he was under orders to go ahead and set the thing up and it became clear that Fubini's "band" was trooping around the country with DIA people writing staff papers, etc., so Dr. W. reported to McCone. It seems to Dr. W. that we should re-examine, go to NPIC, etc. The idea of having military against civilians is not very appealing to NPIC. We have had a fair amount of experience over a period of time. The decision was made to continue and encourage Fubini's people to rely on us. Letter was drafted to Fubini by McCone.

7. Fubini said he was not accusing Dr. Wheelon and Dr. W. replied, "You certainly were."

8. Fubini said if we want them to rely on us we should play fair, etc., and he will be glad to hear this speech by Duckett. When does he hear it?

9. Wheelon said he had spoken to Gen. Carroll and Fubini said he was in a position to do it now and would check with Gen. Carroll and call us back.

10. Fubini said he had tried hard to see that the Agency and Defense work together. He only wants this so they can really help us. Fubini expects us to do what they say.

11. Dr. Wheelon stated again that he did not have anything to do with drafting the letter and that was between Fubini and the Director.

12. Dr. Fubini said, "You have an Agency, go ahead and do it but please don't ask us for a confrontation."

13. Dr. Wheelon told Dr. F. that he should not consider this a kick in the teeth. Dr. F. said he had been kicked in the teeth not because Dr. W. doesn't like him, because he thinks W. does like him. F. does not want Dr. W. to let this mar their relations in the future and does not want Dr. W. to take this personally because he does not mean it that way.

14. Dr. W. said he is going to try to get the job done technically. W. thinks it is better done by civilians than by colonels.

15. At this point, D. W. brought up another subject -- that of getting started on joint meetings with the NRO. Dr. F. was very agreeable to this and wanted to know if Dr. W. wanted to take the initiative. Then F. said he (F.) would take the initiative himself